

**57. (previously presented)** The image processing system (1) as claimed in claim 55, wherein, in a third main process which is delayed in time with respect to the second main process, the segment list is read by the statistical processor, and wherein the statistical moments (S) are calculated for the objects in each direction (DIR1 to DIR4).

**58. (previously presented)** The image processing system (1) as claimed in claim 55, wherein the image data is supplied as an image datastream (12) to the processing device (6), and the contour point list (20) is actually produced while the image datastream (12) is being supplied.

**59. (previously presented)** The image processing system (1) as claimed in claim 55, wherein partitioned contour point lists (20) which have been sorted on the basis of directions are stored in one or more memories with respect to the delay time of the image.

**60. (previously presented)** The image processing system (1) as claimed in claim 55, wherein a pixel interpolation process is carried out in order to reduce the quantization or digitization noise.

**61. (previously presented)** The image processing system (1) as claimed in claim 55, wherein the contour points (22) are stored with sub-pixel resolution in the contour point list (20).

**62. ~~63.~~ (previously presented)** The image processing system (1) as claimed in claim 55, wherein at least one gradient (Grad\_1, Grad\_2) is calculated for each direction (DIR1 to DIR4), and is preferably stored in the contour point list.

**63. (previously presented)** The image processing system (1) as claimed in claim 55, wherein the difference between two convolution results (Fx\_0 - Fx\_1) is calculated, and is preferably stored in the contour point list (20).